

Application No. 10/025,710  
NF Response to OA dated 10/14/2005  
Docket No. 0220-083

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions. and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1 (Currently Amended). A method for planning firmware card ports on DSL multiplexors, said method comprising the ~~following~~ steps of:
- querying an element management system for the DSL multiplexors; and
  - for at least one multiplexor identified at the element management system,
  - identifying to the multiplexor the characteristics of a card to be placed in at least one of the ports on the multiplexor; and
  - identifying incorrectly planned ports by identifying planned ports that conflict with a predefined planning arrangement.
- 2 - 10 (Canceled).
11. (Currently Amended) A method for planning firmware card ports in a DSL network, said method comprising the ~~following~~ steps of:
- retrieving from an element management system an identification of one or more multiplexor devices;

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retrieving from one of the multiplexor devices identified by the element management system information identifying the planning status of ports on the multiplexor device; and  
planning the ports on the multiplexor device based on the forwarding planning status  
~~information to the multiplexor device for planning.~~

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the step of retrieving from an element management system an identification of one or more multiplexor devices comprises requesting information from the element management system identifying multiplexors that are managed by the element management system.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the step of retrieving from an element management system an identification of one or more multiplexor devices comprises forwarding a transport layer interface protocol (TLI) to an element management system.

14. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the step of identifying to the multiplexor the characteristics of a card to be placed in at least one of the ports of the multiplexor comprises identifying at least one of a card type, a card profile, and a software version.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of identifying unplanned ports on the multiplexor identified by the element management system.

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16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the step of identifying unplanned ports comprises processing the information identifying the planning status of ports on the multiplexor device.
17. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of identifying incorrectly planned ports on the multiplexor identified by the element management system.
18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the step of identifying incorrectly planned ports comprises processing the information identifying the planning status of ports on the multiplexor device.
19. (Canceled).